

THE FORNOSA SAVAGES.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 13th March, 1888, publishes a memorial from Liu Ming-chuan, Governor of Formosa, giving an account of the measures he has taken in the north and centre of the island to restore order among some of the tribes which had previously been subjugated, but had since relapsed into savagery. Last summer the hill districts in the north were ravaged by pestilence, and the greater portion of the troops stationed there were moved down to the plain to escape the contagion. The savages suffered very severely from the disease, and according to their custom they endeavoured to avert it by putting people to death. In the first instance seven Chinese were killed by different savages; but the numbers were either arrested or given up, after which they were condemned and executed. In the middle of August, four Chinese woodcutters were captured, killed, and in the next two days three more men suffered the same fate. Upon this a party consisting of an interpreter, a petty officer, and eight soldiers, was sent to the village of Ta-pa Shé to demand the surrender of the guilty persons. But the savages, so far from complying, had even the audacity to expose the heads of their victims in front of their houses in order to terrify the comers. This led to a quarrel, and the interpreter and his companions were all slain. The savages then joined their friends in the neighbouring villages in revolting against the government. The weather at this time too hot for the soldiers to make an expedition far into the mountains. Nothing, therefore, was done at the moment beyond replacing the garrisons at their former posts. At the same time enquiries were made, and it was elicited that the most numerous and rebellious of all the savages were those of Ta-pa Shé, whose village was very difficult to approach, though it was only about 20 miles from Tainan, and was surrounded on three sides by inhabited country. About the middle of October the memorialist directed an officer named Lin Wei-yuan to take command of a strong force of soldiers and militia, and ordered the village of Ta-pa Shé. First the village in the neighbourhood were destroyed, and then an advance was made on Ta-pa Shé itself. The savages offered a strenuous resistance, but a body of troops was sent to take them in the rear, and so the stronghold was captured with a loss to the assailants of between ten and twenty men. A day or two afterwards the headmen came and gave their submission. As the savages seemed irreclaimable while they remained in their present position, it was determined to move them on to the plain. They did not number more than a thousand souls, and it was calculated that after a year or two the cost of maintaining them would be recovered from the rent of the land they relinquished, the greater part of which was fertile and valuable. In the centre of the island there was a somewhat similar story of outrages. First one or two Chinese were waylaid, then two parties, each of four men, were cut off. At the beginning of October, their force, troops were sent to punish the village of Tai-ma Shé. They were opposed by a body of 500 savages who fought from daylight to evening before giving way. Next a place called Kuo-ling was surprised, and the troops were stationed in the surrounding villages. The following day the savages assumed the offensive, and attacked one of these garrisons, but reinforcements came up and they were dispersed. Constant fighting continued for seventeen days without intermission, during which time the Chinese loss was between thirty and forty men, that of the savages being larger; afterwards the savages gave their submission, and the troops returned to their former posts. The memorialist concludes by asking for honours for those officers who most distinguished themselves, including one who fell in action. The application is approved by the Rescript.

ON HORSEBACK IN SHANTUNG.

"In autumn, when the winds are low," some men, long to go on pilgrimages. The modern evangel to China would add the exhortation: "Take heed that your flight be not in summer." For then the unobtrusive traveller in the Kingdom of Lu will find in the language of another, "old waterways turned into roads." The more careful will recall that the cart-roads worn deep in the soft loess soil, those old "Lang Wo"—wolf-hairs—of the peasant's imagination, have suddenly become gutters and stream beds. In the early autumn then, before the cotton rains have broken the dissolved roads, one's best resource is a Mongol pony or a stately striding mule.

The fine city of Chi-nan Fu, the provincial capital, might easily attract one to describe its crowded busy aspect; its noisical le yamens; its wonderful Lotus lake; its beautiful "Bubbling Spring" from which flow sweet waters encircling the city; its fresh sweet water springs and hydrants in the streets; its "Mountain and Grottoes of the Thousand Buddhas"; its two large and noble looking Mohammedan mosques; enough and more to lead the enthusiastic to say of the city, "The Paris of China." We refuse to enthuse! "For why?" as the Prayer Book insists on inquiring of us. I could gladly cover up my little "why!" But I am pushing rapidly through to the eastern suburb, and am suddenly reminded of Mongolia, so fragrant with its autumn air, so fragrant as the early morning breakfast is a-stirring, fragrant alas! not from the stew which must soon be gulped, but from the smoke of argal, refuse of beasts useful to men, whose dity warmth would invite me to consider a new "heat as a mode of motion." Here is Shantung with its vast waste of hills, with its coal mines awaiting the busy artisan. And here in the splendid city of the province, "Paris of China," burning argal in all its biscuit shops because coal is too costly.

And so for a thousand N eastward on the plains, and in the mountain, they use argal for fuel. Of course they burn coal, which is not strange. But they burn argal too. One night we slept in a mountain inn. Outside the door of our room lay neatly piled the cord-wood of the mountain, the fragrant fuel of the Mongol plain. I will not complain; were not my ancestors Aryan? I merely observe when coal has taken the place of argal then may the way be found to control the desolating turbulence of the Yellow River.

The capital city marks a line of distinct customs and habits. The first thing to be noticed is the roofs of the houses. To one unaccustomed to it a thatched roof seems not the ideal. But as one carefully considers it rises in the scale of usefulness. The thatched roofs of all Central and Eastern Shantung lend a certain picturesque quality to the homely architecture, utterly lacking in the dull flat roofs of the villages in the west of the province. The thatch requires an acute angle to shed the water rapidly; the lightness of the covering reduces the necessity of weight in the roof timbers, and a consequent diminution of the size of the adobe bricks below. The lightness of the thatch allows a triangular frame for the roof timbers, in lieu of the square frame rising in two or three sections. I had supposed the triangular frame, with or without king-posts,

is foreign to China. But it is universal with the thatched roof, and must greatly diminish the expense of building. The roof is further adorned in many buildings by a few feet of eaves, running as a wide fringe along the outer edge of the front and rear, and about a foot lower in height. The thatch houses in Japan are made somewhat on this plan. The steep thatch turns off the descending waters of a storm upon the fringe of tiles, and thus is preserved from damage. We are informed that such a thatch roof seldom if ever leaks, that it lasts much longer than an ordinary mud roof, that it is easily renewed, and has only one disadvantage, viz., the danger of fire. That this is a frequent danger of the many recent ruins of houses in market towns and villages above. In consequence there are no chimneys in the town. An ugly smoke-hole in either gable of the house, with a blackened space on the wall, shows where the sluggish smoke crawls out of begimed rooms. Nature attempts her skill in adorning still further the quaint thatch. A very quaint and beautiful plant grows in great abundance on the soft thatch. It is a most delicate and diminutive tree, so exactly resembling the fir or pine that the natives call it "the house-top pine." When in full blossom the soft peach-blossom colouring of these hundreds of dwarf pine, from one to four inches high in long rows, is a strange prettiness to the weather-worn thatch. The plant is destructive to the thatch, but the natives make no effort to eradicate it. It grows and increases like parsley in a garden. I would not have its delicate beauty molested were I the happy owner of a thatched house.

Commerce and architecture help each other. The starwheat trade from Chefoo inland found an easy entrance, because the wheat straw has been always carefully kept for the thatch, instead of being mashed under the thrasher as in western Shan-tung, and destroyed for commercial purposes. We found brand-making for the Chefoo market in the mountains, 800 ft from the coast. They had but to turn the thatching bundles into marketable bread.

About 70 ft N.E. of the capital is the site of the ancient city of the same name. The outline of the vast enclosure is still distinct on four sides, the great road runs through the centre of the circunvallation. We did not for the long lines of earth ramparts, ages since bereft of brickwork, the fields within were not to be distinguished from other well tilled fields. The present site of the city, nearer the hills, is far more picturesque than the ancient city could possibly have been.

Multitudes of small streams find their way from the mountains to the sea. The summer rains fill them rapidly. They die away as rapidly to small rivulets. They have carried down in the rush of summer waters great quantities of smooth worn pebbles and rocks. On the banks of these are to be noticed not unfrequently small collections of lime-kilns. Sometimes these appear as collections of white tents, as seen from a distance. The pits are built up as small circular mounds some twelve or fifteen feet in height. A climb to the top shows the pit filled with the large and small smooth round bricks brought down from the hills by the rushing streams. The storm brings down its harvest of stone for the plover, about forty tons of stone go into the kiln, which is fired by about four tons of soft coal from the neighbouring hills. It takes eight days to complete the calcination, and then lime is sold at the pit at from two to three real cash per catty. The coal costs them four real cash per catty. The heavy teams from western Shantung and from southern Chihli, coming to the region with cotton and other merchandise, can return with a load of lime, which is at last sold at twice its cost at the pit, leaving a small margin of profit. What an immense amount of freights a line of rail-road east and west in this fine province will at some time secure.

The most famous business centre in the province is Chow Ts'ui. It has become a by-word though not a hissing—"there is one fair in Chihli, one market town in Honan, and one village in Shantung." The present commercial city of Honan is technically but a market town. The famous Ts'ui of Shantung, whither merchants from all North China go to market their goods or their wares, is simply a village with a mud wall. It is twelve ft off the main highway, seemingly out of the way and inaccessible. But the rates of all merchandise to itself, and fixes the rates of commerce and exchange for vast regions. Once within its low mud wall the traveller marvels at the multitude of its busy crowds of merchants, and still more at the unending rows of fongas and godowns which store away in great abundance its endless variety of native goods. Not Tientsin itself, with all its opportunity for distribution, seems busier nor more a queen among the merchants. Could the laws of political economy in distribution be more completely overlooked than in hiding away such a commercial depot at the base of the Shantung hills?

The Imperial Telegraph Company, whose lines run from Ts'ui-ning to the capital to Chefoo, have discerned the importance of Chow Ts'ui, and in the autumn had run the line through the latter, establishing a branch office there. That office had just been opened a few days before our visit. The second branch office was at the same time removed from Weishien to Sha-he, the centre of the straw-braid business in Eastern Shantung.—*Chinese Times.*

FOOCHOW.

Tigers are reported to be committing serious depredations at Hinghua. On January 18th, a young girl was seized and carried away by a man-eater.

We believe that the settlement of the Foochow missionary trouble is now in a fair way of being completed. From what we learn, the Chinese authorities undertake to rebuild all the churches destroyed, and pay a sum of \$14,000 besides, for losses sustained by the mission. The mission should be very thankful to Mr. Francis French Consul, as he must have had rather hard work to effect a just and reasonable settlement.

In the tea districts the usual preparations for the new leaf are rumoured to be very gloomy for the coming season. Doubts seem to be the order of the day in all matters concerning the business. Last year was certainly a very salutary one as a lesson to many of our enterprising but penniless Celestial tea merchants, whom we positively blame to be the cause of all the deterioration in quality and price, for they are the real inventors and sellers of the market every year, and the result is that other respectable dealers who used to buy and place on the market pure leaf, are now compelled to give up any idea of fair dealing in order to remain in the trade at all. If a clean sweep of this grand class of tea dealers can be effected, China tea will be at once elevated to the old standard which the world so much appreciated.

A fight, arising out of an old grudge, took place on the 12th instant, between Shang Kan villagers and those of Ko-oh, at a place close to the tea house. During the affray some shots were exchanged, in which one of the Ko-oh villagers was shot dead on the spot and several badly wounded. The soldiers stationed in the temple close by Messrs. Pardon & Co.'s office, went down with a Mandarin to stop the fight, but this grand servant of His Imperial Majesty, instead of using his power as a representative of

the Emperor, went on his knees before the excited crowd, praying them to stop the row, and the result was that no police was taken of him or his soldiers, and the fight went on from bad to worse until both parties had fought to their hearts' content and dispersed. Had it not been for the cowardice shown by the mandarin and the soldiers, the fight would not have amounted to much, and no lives would have been lost. We were informed some days ago that the affray was likely to take place, but we placed no reliance upon the rumour.—*Echo.*

To-day's Advertisements.

POSTPONEMENT.

HAMILTON COMEDY SEASON.

IN consequence of Miss FORD'S medical adviser having forbidden her to appear on the stage for some time, Mr. HAMILTON begs to announce that no further performances can be given until the conclusion of the Shanghai Season.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1888. [330]



NOTICE.

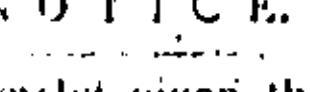
NOTICE is hereby given that if the sums hereinafter mentioned are not CLAIMED within one year from this date they will be transferred to the GENERAL REVENUE of this Colony.

In the matter of the TRUST ESTATE of DENT & Co.
1.—Balance due to ALEXANDER GOWIE, Master of the ship or vessel *Aurora* \$5,879.65
2.—Balance due to HENRY MANN, Master of the ship or vessel *Waterwitch* 78.15
3.—Bail due to J. GOVER 469.19

In the matter of JACKY ADAMS TH-MAS JOHN ROWLAND, amount to credit of this account 2,281.57

EDW. J. ACKROYD, Registrar.

Supreme Court, Hongkong, 17th March, 1888. [328]



NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that if the sums mentioned in Schedules A and B of Ordinance No. 11 of 1888, copies of which have been posted up in the Supreme Court and published in the *Government Gazette* of the 24th March, 1888, are not CLAIMED within six months from date hereof, they will be paid over to the GENERAL REVENUE of the Colony.

The sums mentioned in Schedule C to the said Ordinance, a copy of which has been posted and published, will also be paid over to the Treasury if not CLAIMED within one year from the said date.

EDW. J. ACKROYD, Registrar.

Registry Supreme Court, Hongkong, 17th March, 1888. [329]

THE "GIBB" LINE.

FOR MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, AND QUEENSLAND PORTS, VIA KUDAT, SOURABAYA AND THE LEUWIN, (Taking through Cargo for ADELAIDE, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.)

THE British Steamer

"AFGHAN," Captain Roy, with part cargo from Japan, will be despatched as above (instead of as previously notified) on SATURDAY, the 24th instant, at 5 P.M.

For Freight or Passage to Melbourne or Sydney at (\$150), apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Managers.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1888. [262]

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE.

STEAM TO SHANGHAI.

THE Company's Steamship.

"PREUSSEN,"

Captain C. Pohle, will leave for the above place TO-MORROW, the 22nd instant, at 9 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to MELCHERS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1888. [4]

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND NAGASAKI.

(Passing through the INLAND SEA.)

THE Company's Steamship

"GENERAL WERDER,"

Captain W. von Schuckmann, will leave for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 22nd instant, at 9 A.M.

The Steamer has excellent Passenger accommodation, is fitted up with Electric Light, and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

For Freight or Passage, apply to MELCHERS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1888. [4]

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "PREUSSEN,"

FROM BREMEN AND PORTS OF CALL.

THE above named Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Tea, and Valuable, are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be landed here in Hongkong unless notice to the contrary be given before NOON, TO-DAY, the 21st instant.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 28th March, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on MONDAY, the 2nd April, at 4 P.M. All Claims must reach us before the 4th April, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by MELCHERS & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1888. [4]

To-day's Advertisements.

PUBLIC AUCTION

OF

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, PIANO, &c.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

WEDNESDAY,

the 28th March, 1888, at 2 P.M., at No. 7, Mosque Terrace, the Residence of Captain CROISDALE,

THE WHOLE OF HIS

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.

comprising:—

CRETONNE COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, MARBLE TOP BLACK-WOOD TABLES, LACE CURTAINS, PICTURES, LAMPS, FENDERS, &c., &c. AMERICAN PIANO by CHICKERING. EXTENSION DINING TABLE WHATNOTS, SIDEBOARD, CHAIRS, CUTLERY, CROCKERY, GLASS and PLATED WARE, IRON BEDSTEADS, WARDROBES, MARBLE TOP WASHING STANDS, WARDROBES DRESSING TABLES, BEDROOM SUITE.

Catalogues will be issued previous to the Sale and the above will be on view on TUESDAY NEXT.

TERMS OF SALE.—As Customary.

G. R. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 21st March, 1888. [331]

Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "UPPINGHAM,"

FROM GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods, with the exception of Opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 4 P.M., TO-DAY. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 25th instant, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 25th March, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1888. [298]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "STRATHLEVEN,"

FROM NEW YORK AND SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to TAKE IMMEDIATE DELIVERY OF THEIR GOODS FROM ALONGSIDE.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Steamer will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned immediately or they will not be recognised.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1888. [311]

UNION LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "EUPHRATES,"

Captain Edwards, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

The Steamer is berthed at Kowloon Piers and Cargo impeding her discharge will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 23rd inst, or they will not be recognised.

RUSSELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1888. [397]

Masonic.

CATHAY CHAPTER,

No. 1165.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION of the

above Chapter will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on MONDAY, the 26th inst., at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1888. [322]

EOTHEN MARK LODGE

OF HONGKONG, No. 264.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on THURSDAY, the 29th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 20th March, 1888. [326]

To be Let.

TO BE LET,

Unfurnished with Tennis Court.

NO. 1, Richmond Terrace, a FOUR-ROOMED HOUSE, with Three Bath Rooms.

NO. 6, Richmond Terrace, a SIX ROOMED HOUSE, with Three Bath Rooms.

A New Story has just been added to the Servants' quarters of both houses.

Apply to JOHN WILLMOTT, Hongkong Dispensary.

Hongkong, 27th January, 1888. [131]

TO LET.

ROOMS in "COLLIER CHAMBERS"

GODOWN in JER LANE, lately occupied by Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, from the 1st May.

Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, 27th February, 1888. [12]

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION

OF

ENGLISH, AMERICAN AND HONGKONG

MADE, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

PIANO, ORGAN, &c.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from H. SMITH, Esq., to Sell by Public

Auction,

TO-MORROW,

the 22nd March, 1888, at 2 P.M., at the Undersigned's Sale Rooms, Duddell Street,

THE WHOLE OF HIS

ELEGANT AND SUBSTANTIAL

FURNITURE,

comprising:—

GARNET REP COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, English-made MAHOGANY CENTRE TABLE, SIDE & CARD TABLES, PICTURE, ENGRAVINGS, MIRRORS, LACE CURTAINS, CARPETS, RUGS, &c. American-made BLACK and GOLD CHEFFONIER, PLATE GLASS BACK, COTTAGE PIANO by ARNOLD & Co., nearly new.

SPLENDID PALOUR ORGAN by HAMLIN & MASON, with extra stops. TEAK & EROHY SIDEBOARD, DINING-ROOM SUIT, DINNER and DESSERT SERVICE, CUTLERY, GLASS & PLATED WARE, FENDERS and IRONS.

IRON BEDSTEADS, LADY'S DOUBLE WINGED WARDROBES, MARBLE TOP WASHING-STAND and LADY'S DOUBLE WINGED DRESSING-TABLE, BEDROOM SUITE, CHANDELIER, LAMPS, &c.

Catalogues will be issued prior to Sale and above will be on view on WEDNESDAY next.

TERMS OF SALE.—As Customary.

G. R. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1888. [305]

PUBLIC AUCTION

TO Sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY,

the 24th March, 1888, at 2 P.M., at the Residence of Captain W. E. CLARK, No. 31, West Villa, corner of Pokfulam and Batt-y Road West.

THE WHOLE OF HIS

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

comprising:—

ROMAN SATIN COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, MIRRORS, PICTURES, CARPETS, RUGS, LACE-CURTAINS, BLACK and GOLD CORNICES, BLACK & GOLD CANTERBURY, &c. MAHOGANY COTTAGE PIANO by COLLARD & COLLARD, nearly new.

EXTENSION DINING TABLE, CUTLERY, CROCKERY, GLASS and PLATED WARE, &c. DINING ROOM FURNITURE, LAMPS, &c.

DOUBLE IRON BEDSTEADS, SPRING MATTRESS and HAIR MATTRESS and PILLOW, LADY'S WARDROBE DRESSING TABLE with MIRROR, MARBLE TOP WASHING-STAND & BED ROOM SUITE, ICE CHEST, COOKING RANGE, RICK-SHA, LADY'S CHAIR, &c.

Catalogues will be issued prior to the sale and the above will be on view on FRIDAY NEXT.

TERMS OF SALE.—As Customary.

G. R. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1888. [314]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Intimations. NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED THEIR ANNUAL SUPPLY

LAWN GRASS SEED

and

SWEET CORN,

for immediate sowing.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1888.

THE DOCK COMPANY.

(Continued.)

It is a very easy thing to make vague charges of a general character against the Directors of the Dock Company; but it is quite another thing to prove the alleged mismanagement, neglect of duty, etc., we can fancy hearing one of the more able who, to use the expressive if somewhat indignant language of the late Sir John Lubbock, has "made his pile" out of the docks triumphantly declaiming on the "Club steps." No doubt there is a vast difference between making a charge and proving it—but those self-opinionated persons who pretend to know so much about the affairs of this particular joint stock enterprise, and who have been so ready in ventilating their opinions in and out of season, might have known by this time that every allegation published in this journal would be borne out by unobscured and absolute proofs. We have in the plainest language possible expressed our belief that the present most unsatisfactory condition of the affairs of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company is mainly due to the gross mismanagement of the Board of Directors, and we will now proceed to amply substantiate and justify that opinion, nothing extenuating nor setting down aught in malice.

It would appear that at various times in the history of the Company certain members of the Board have exercised powers that were almost absolute; the gentlemen we refer to managed, and directed the business as suited their own notions, and exactly as they thought fit, without the slightest regard for the views or wishes of the other Directors or of the shareholders at large. It is possible, nay probable, that these self-constituted autocrats had absolute belief in their own infallibility, and merged the interests of the shareholders in their own with the most excellent intentions; but as neither the statutes nor the Company's Articles of Association confer absolute power on any individual, the autocratic assumptions of authority referred to were, to say the least, illegal and unwarranted. The legal definition of the powers of Directors in joint stock companies is one of the safeguards of the shareholders, but in this particular Company it is a safeguard that has frequently been quietly set aside and ignored without hesitation. This in itself is mismanagement and neglect of the interests of shareholders by their paid servants, the Directors; but we will give one instance where an autocratic assumption of power, by the supineness of the other members of the Board, was exercised to the prejudice of the Company to the extent of about a quarter of a million of dollars.

In 1878 the Cosmopolitan Dock was the property of Messrs. SPRATT and EMANUEL, and was running an active but unremunerative opposition to the old established Dock Company. Times were bad, rates so low that docking and repairing ships left no appreciable margin of profit, and, as usual under such circumstances, money was "tight"—at least the proprietors of the Cosmopolitan Dock found it so. Under this extreme pressure these gentlemen, after trying every expedient that could be thought of to keep themselves afloat and tide over the bad times, were compelled to come to terms with the more powerful opposition, and they offered to dispose of their dock and premises at Sam-sui-po to the Dock Company for the sum of \$200,000. It was a glorious opportunity for the Dock Company, as at one blow they would have secured a serviceable dock far below its value, and extinguished an opposition that rendered a profitable working of their own establishments next door to an impossibility; but what was the result? The co-proprietor of the Cosmopolitan Dock who waited on the Chairman of the Board with his offer to sell, was haughtily informed that it could not be entertained and that the Dock Company would fight to the bitter end.

This was no doubt mistaken policy, but it might have been justified had it been rigidly adhered to. However, as usually has been the case, the Dock Company did not "fight to the bitter end"; on the contrary they made a most humiliating surrender, and on the 31st December, 1880, purchased the Cosmopolitan Dock for \$400,000, or exactly double the amount for which the property could have been secured a few months previously. Since that time a sum of about \$100,000, taken out of the Company's earnings, has been written off the value of this dock, money which, with proper management, ought to have been available for distribution to the shareholders, or for the consolidation of the Company's interests in some other direction.

We have quoted this instance of gross mismanagement to show that the shortcomings of the Dock Directors are not plants of yesterday's growth, but that they have been flourishing apocryph for many years. And now let us tackle the latest incubus, that piece of senseless folly which has so materially assisted in bringing the Company to its present unsatisfactory state, and in making the Directorate the jeer and bye-word of the colony—we mean the new Admiralty Dock. Of the many follies the Directors have been responsible for this is by far the greatest and most costly, especially as its prejudicial effects on the future prosperity of the Company are likely to prove of a permanent character.

The first indication the shareholders received that the Directors contemplated the construction of this new dock was by the Report for the half-year ended June 30th, 1882, which was signed by Mr. H. Horner, as Chairman of the Board. It was in these words:—"The Directors are engaged in negotiations with the British Admiralty for the construction of a Dock at Kowloon capable of receiving the largest ships of H.M.'s Navy—the agreement is not yet signed, but the Directors have every reason to expect that the negotiations will be brought to a satisfactory conclusion." At the meeting of shareholders held on August 28th the only additional information vouchsafed by the Chairman was that the site for the new dock had been granted by the Colonial Government on the terms of the original agreement. In the Report for the half-year ended December 31st, 1882, it was stated that—"The negotiations with the British Admiralty for the construction of a new dock at Kowloon have not been finally concluded yet, but the Directors expect to come to a favourable settlement shortly; meanwhile the work has been commenced, and contracts have been entered into for the excavation, the building of the sea-wall and the supply of timber for the coffer-dam."

It would thus appear that the Directors were so infatuated with the new dock scheme that they actually commenced its construction, and entered into contracts for the excavation, the building of the sea-wall, and the supply of timber for the coffer-dam, before the negotiations with the Admiralty had been finally concluded or any agreement signed; in fact, at that time a sum of \$5,025 had already been expended on work done. At the half-yearly meeting held on the 7th March, 1883, no reference whatever was made to the Admiralty Dock.

We next find, in the Report for the half-year ended 30th June, 1883, which is signed by Mr. F. B. Johnson, that the Company is pledged to go on with the new dock. The Report says:—"The Directors have concluded the arrangement with the Lords of the Admiralty, to which reference has been made in previous Reports, although a formal agreement has not yet been signed. Under this agreement the Company will undertake the construction of a Dock of very large dimensions at Kowloon, and to give priority of entrance at all times to H.M.'s ships of war, in consideration of which the Admiralty will pay towards the cost of construction the sum of £25,000, and make a further advance on loan to the Company of £20,000, bearing interest at 4 per cent, principal and interest to be redeemable by yearly instalments extending over a long period. The Company will have the privilege of docking H.M.'s ships of war on the China Station, unless exigencies of the service compel them to dock elsewhere. Considerable progress has been made in the construction of the dock, and up to the 30th June, the sum of \$44,841.08 had been expended upon the works."

This interesting statement was supplemented by some valuable (?) information elicited at a meeting held on the 26th August, 1883, by Mr. E. GEORGE. The Chairman (Mr. F. B. JOHNSON) expressed his satisfaction that all arrangements had been concluded with the Admiralty authorities, although the agreement had not yet been drawn out, and he assured the shareholders that the dock would be constructed at a moderate outlay and would be capable of taking in the largest iron-clad afloat. Mr. GEORGE wished to know

what the entire cost of the dock would be, to which the Chairman replied that the original estimate of \$370,000 would be reduced to something like \$350,000.

By the adoption of the Report last quoted the shareholders sanctioned the construction of a new dock at a cost of \$350,000, of which £25,000 were to be contributed as a free grant by the British Admiralty, in addition to a loan of £20,000 on exceptionally favorable terms. The necessity for a new dock was certainly not generally recognised, but it was felt that the Company was in a position to well afford the expenditure of about \$200,000 for what might in course of time prove useful if not a profitable source of revenue, and it was on this understanding that the scheme was adopted. And what has been the result? Either the shareholders were grossly misled, or the Directors' estimate was based on an exhibition of professional incompetency for which there can be no possible excuse. In the Report for the year ended the 31st December, 1885, the shareholders were curtly informed that the total cost of the new dock would amount to about \$750,000; or more than double the original estimate. No explanation was given of this extraordinary increase until the meeting held a few weeks since, when the Chairman (Mr. BELL-IRVING) stated that it was to a great extent accounted for by the addition of fifty feet to the dock's length, which involved a further outlay of about \$100,000. Why this additional fifty feet had been found necessary Mr. BELL-IRVING did not state, although the extra outlay of \$100,000 of other people's money ought to have suggested the necessity for some explanation. And, to be hyper-critical for once, we may point out that this extra fifty feet, useless dock does not "account to a great extent" for the increase of \$400,000 on the original estimate.

The foregoing is the true history of the much talked of Admiralty Dock, and we venture to submit that a more complete chapter of bungling and blundering would be difficult to find. Where does the responsibility rest? We unhesitatingly say with the Directors, and challenge contradiction. Had the dock cost, the Company only \$200,000 as at first represented, there would have been some hope, not of its paying its way but of its not proving "an old man of the sea" to the other establishments; but \$700,000 in the Dock books, which is the latest official estimate, must for years prove an unbearable tax on the Company's resources. And it is even stated by persons not altogether ignorant of the matter that \$1,000,000 will not cover the total expense of this wonderful monument of Hongkong enterprise. From these facts we leave those interested to make their own deductions, and now proceed to deal with another branch of the subject.

(To be continued.)

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter.)

RUSSIA AND BULGARIA.

LONDON, March 19th.
M. Nelidoff has requested the Porte to summon Prince Ferdinand to leave Bulgaria.

THE EMPEROR'S HEALTH.

The latest bulletin respecting the health of His Majesty the Emperor of Germany states that he is able to sleep well.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

His Excellency the Governor, Lady Dea Vieux, and family arrived last evening by the German mail steamer *Prinzess*. Major-General Cameron, Dr. Stewart and a few other officials received the Governor at Murray Wharf.

The *Electrical Review* says medicine can be introduced into the human system by electricity. The electrodes of a battery are saturated with the selected remedies and applied locally to the skin. Experiments show that there is actual absorption of the medicine into the system.

There will be an exhibition in Paris next year intended to illustrate all the religions of the earth, past and present. Idols, manuscripts and all tangible symbols of religions will be shown in the museum building, which it is expected will cost \$200,000. One-third of this is to be contributed by the Government.

The Mexican Government has recently issued an edict to the effect that no more permits will be granted for bull fights on week days. The people may have them on Sundays to the top of their bent, but it has been found necessary to restrict them to the Lord's day, because thousands of working men and women were in the habit of neglecting their daily avocations to go to the bull-ring.

According to a Saigon contemporary, satisfactory news has been received regarding the progress of the scientific researches now being conducted by M. Fournereau among the famous ruins of Angkor in Cambodia. M. Fournereau, who was despatched by the French Government to carry on antiquarian investigations at that ancient seat of civilization, arrived there the other day after encountering great difficulties on the way, owing to shortcomings in the means of communication. He now writes enthusiastically of the artistic and architectural wonders of Angkor. Plans of the principal buildings at Angkor have been drawn out, and the explorer has called in the aid of photography in depicting the wondrous sights he beheld. His researches, the *Indo-Chinois* remarks, entail a heavy drain on the finances of Cochinchina, which cannot but be an unwelcome to the economical party now at the head of affairs.

Out in Dakota the mercury stands at 53 deg. below zero. The favorite salutation is, "Stranger, your nose is frozen."

Only a short time ago the late Emperor of Germany addressed to the Masonic Lodge at Rostock, Mecklenburg, a letter of congratulation on the seventy-fifth anniversary of its foundation. He said: "Freemasonry constitutes a true element of the religious sentiment, and works for the well-being of humanity."

The Bishop of Rochester wants his clergy and laity to be wary of the subject of church discipline. "Any moment a chasm may yawn under our feet, should personal ambition or party tactics make the privileges either of the Church of England or the Church of Scotland a good rallying cry. If the Church in Wales is thrown to wolves, we know what will follow."

The *Daily Press* must be hard up for local matter when it has to specially paragraph the fact that somebody in the Hongkong Hotel got bitten by a dog and that a certain medical practitioner was called in to cauterise the wound. Why does not *Granny* tell an expectant public when the agricultural Editor intends to be vaccinated?

The *Paris Temps* of February 19th states that great activity prevails at present in the French naval armaments, and that in pursuance of the Ministerial orders the ships belonging to the fighting fleet have been called to the arsenal. The journal adds that in a few days' time the state of the naval stores will be far more satisfactory than at the beginning of the year. — *Reuter.*

The Ceylon tea industry has already assumed large proportions. There are probably now 200,000 acres of tea planted in Ceylon, giving employment to 1,200 British managers and superintendents and 60,000 British subjects from India and Ceylon. The probable export of tea from Ceylon in 1890 will, it is said, be 40,000,000 pounds, and by the end of the century 100,000,000 pounds.

As will be seen from an advertisement in another column, the Hongkong Rifle Association will hold its fifth prize competition at Kowloon on Friday and Saturday, the 30th and 31st inst., and on Monday the 2nd April. The large sum of \$1,000 will be given in prizes, and number of competitors will be open to all comers. Full particulars of what should prove the most interesting *rifleshooting* ever held in the colony will be shortly announced.

SICKNESS insurance is meeting with some favor in Leipzig and other German cities. The law authorizing the operation of such companies permits the insurance to all classes of hand-workers except clerks and salesmen, but these may be included by local authority. The action of this law is very noticeable in the tax for himself and his wife, having decreased 16.75 marks in Hamburg in one year. The total number insured under the law is 4,294,173 or 91.7 per 1,000 of the population.

The following will be the Orders of the Day at the next meeting of the Legislative Council, to be held on Friday next at 4 p.m.:

1. To go into Committee on the Bill entitled *The Rating Ordinance, 1888.*

2. Third reading of the following Bills:—

(a) *The Stamp Duties Amendment Ordinance, 1888.*

(b) *The Trees Preservation Ordinance, 1888.*

A FIRE occurred in Hanoi on the 4th inst., seventeen native houses being burnt to the ground in the short space of an hour. The next morning a house contiguous to the Annamite Treasury took fire, but the conflagration was speedily checked. On the same day a haystack in the Rue de la Volaille blazed away with such a fury that the flames rapidly spread over all the houses located between the moat and the canal. On the 6th another conflagration took place in the Pavillons Noirs. No loss of life has been reported.

It is somewhat singular that the most gorgeously dressed person in the Spanish court should be the nurse of the infant king, a comely woman in face and form. Ordinarily she wears a rich velvet skirt with two broad bands of gold round it, a blue velvet apron, also trimmed with gold, and a bodice of black velvet, fastened with lovely silver buttons, which open on an inner bodice of fine lawn with lace. Round her neck are five or six rows of coral beads; and she wears long earrings of the same material. A rich silk handkerchief is fastened over her dark hair, which she arranges Madras fashion in front. For occasions of state there are other costumes more handsome, as handsome, says the chronicler, as any the nobility wears.

The *Indo-Chinois* of the 26th February calls attention to the evil effect of the customs tariff in Cochinchina, in the direction of curtailing the cultivation of rice. The heavy import duties on the articles which Chinese dealers used to export to the native cultivators of rice have now raised prices that holders of rice refuse to sell unless in case of necessity. They find their branch of industry becoming unprofitable. Unless the Government takes counteracting measures in time, the area under paddy will shrink very steadily. In time to come this will tell seriously in lessening the revenue from the export duty on that article of produce. It is expected that this source of income would show last year a falling off amounting to one and a half millions of francs. The yield from the import duties to the Government has been estimated at 700,000 francs. These figures show a deficit of some 800,000 francs. The losses undergone by other classes of the business community have been considerable since the new tariff came into force. Sensible people in France see clearly that it is high time to alter a customs system which has worked so unsatisfactorily. Persistence in the course hitherto taken will inevitably prove ruinous to the Colony.

Mr. SHILTON HOOPER, valuer under the Rating Ordinance, at the Police Court this morning summoned a Chinaman named Ng Wong, of 30 Wellington Street, with unlawfully and knowingly returning false particulars of the rents of certain houses belonging to defendant in Queen's Road and Tung Sing Lane. Complainant said he sent the accused a printed form by the post on the 6th inst. to his house in Wellington Street, asking for the rentals of seven houses. On the 17th defendant brought back the form duly filled up, returning \$60 for the houses in Tung Sing Lane, and \$120 for the two tenements in Queen's Road. For No. 1, the rent should have been \$160 and for No. 2, \$142. For the other houses the rent was from \$120 to \$175. The accused explained to complainant that some of the floors were vacant. On being further questioned the deceiver said that his rent collector had filled up the form—not himself, and that at present that individual was ill and could not attend, or it would all be explained beautifully. On the 19th of March he came back to the charge and said the returns were quite in accordance with fact. In answer to the Magistrate, this morning, defendant said that in consequence of family illness he had entrusted the sheets to his agents, who were responsible for the returns, an assumption which Mr. Wise did not entertain, but fined the accused \$700, being \$100 for each house.

A CHINESE seaman, aged 26, was charged at the Police Court this morning of seducing, with bringing a girl only 15 years of age into the colony and detaining her for unlawful purposes. Lo Ah-kin, the complainant, said that the prisoner, along with several other men, took her away from her home at Sa Han on the 14th inst. and brought her to Hongkong by way of Canton, arriving here on the 19th by the river steamer *Hankow*. She was accompanied by defendant and two assistants—the others having left at Canton. "I am only 15," said the little girl, "and have lived all my life at Sa Han with my mother. Father is dead. I did not want to leave home, and prisoner said in answer to my supplications that he would take me back home." Mr. Wise remanded the case till March 27th.

The Manila *Comercio* publishes a telegram to the effect that General V. Weyler y Nicolau has been appointed Captain-General of the Philippine Archipelago. His Excellency was born at Palma in Majorca in September 1838; was promoted to the grade of ensign after completing his infancy course at Madrid; was sent out in 1855 as Captain to San Domingo, where for bravery in quelling an insurrection he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in 1873; he was then commissioned to restore order in Cuba, where he distinguished himself during the rebellion and was raised to the grade of Brigadier-General and finally to that of Lieutenant-General; in 1880 General Nicolau was appointed Governor-General of the Canary Islands and subsequently the title of Marquis of Tenerife was conferred on him. He is said to be a pronounced liberal in politics, and once offered himself as a candidate for the portfolio of War in Madrid. His nomination to the Governor-Generalship of the Philippines is said to have been hailed with satisfaction by all classes at Manila.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* is of opinion that Monsieur Constans' assertion to the effect that at a distance of 4,000 leagues from the metropolis there ought to be no governors nor governed, but only brethren, is controverted by the severity of facts, as instanced by the following occurrence. On the night of the 26th January, Victor Loisy, a dealer of Hanoi, was journeying from Hanoi to the city, and arrived at Ninh-Binh with a herd of 15 oxen and two buffaloes. Unable to find a shelter from the inclemency of the weather and the depredations of the pirates, he applied to the commander of Ninh-Binh for permission to enter the town and pass the night under cover. To reach the town he had to pass through the military route, on the borders of which M. Trémoulet, the vice-resident, had planted several beds of flowers. The cattle dealer placed his oxen along the route to prevent the animals from trampling down the vice-resident's jessamines and roses, but the lover of botanical beauty came on the scene in a downpour of rain and told Loisy to take his oxen and his cattle to sleep with the oxen *couchez au diable* and threatening to throw him into prison unless he complied with that pleasant injunction. Loisy and his 13 head of cattle camped out the whole night under the canopy of heaven, in a tremendous downpour of rain. On the morning 20 oxen fell sick, and by nightfall two of them died. On the next day six more were left on the route, and the herd reached Hanoi after having lost 26 oxen and one buffalo.

The hearing of the suit The Douglas Steamship Company v. W. Cruikshank, \$511.54, was resumed this morning at the Summary Jurisdiction Court, before Mr. A. J. Leach, Acting Justice Judge. Mr. Wotton having concluded his case for the plaintiff Company, Mr. Webber addressed the Court for the defence. He submitted that his client could not be made responsible for the explosion which occurred in the parcel room of the steamship *Formosa* on the morning of the 26th December last, in Swatow harbor. There were in that room, besides his client's box of chlorate of potash and sulphur, producing a violent explosion, unless when intimately mixed and submitted to considerable friction or to a sudden concussion. He had declared his parcel as containing drugs, because the articles therein packed were under that denomination. Under cross-examination by Mr. Wotton, witness said he was not aware of an ordinance compelling shippers of dangerous articles to declare their nature previous to shipping them; he was sure the article was not of a dangerous nature unless they got intimately mixed together, and this was prevented by the way they were packed. Mr. P. Fraser, assistant in the Victoria Dispensary, was next examined, and stated that he had superintended the packing of the bottles, and was of opinion that it was impossible they could have been broken during the passage from this port to Swatow. The corrugated paper wrapper protected every part of the bottles and prevented them from coming into contact with each other or with any foreign substances; there was no chance of their contents becoming mixed together and producing the explosion complained of. Mr. W. B. Crow was then called to give his opinion, as an expert, concerning the explosive nature of chlorate of potash and sulphur. He had seen these ingredients used in the manufacture of coloured lights; although great danger attended the mixing up of them together, it was highly improbable that the quantities packed up by defendant in separate vessels could get so mixed up as to be liable to explode. The vibration of the ship would not be sufficient to produce an explosion; it would require a friction produced by artificial means, to cause the substances to ignite. Assuming that the vessels had been broken and small quantities of each material had got mixed together and exploded, that partial explosion would not communicate to the whole mass, as this, not being mixed, would not be in a state of explosiveness. Assuming, moreover, that after the explosion all the articles in the parcel room had been found intact, such as the caps, and the red and blue lights, and that only the box containing the chlorate of potash and sulphur had been destroyed, witness would strongly suspect the contents of this box to have exploded. Captain Trow of the steamship *Aglian*, having deposed as to the perfect safety with which he once carried 100 kegs of chlorate of potash together with 120 kegs of sulphur from Yokohama to Kobe, his honour adjourned the further hearing of the case till 10.15 a.m. to-morrow.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation at the seventeenth ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the Head Office of the Company at Hongkong, on Friday, the 23rd March, 1888, at 12 o'clock noon:—

The Directors have now to submit to the shareholders a statement of account, showing the result of the Company's working for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1887. The profits earned for that period amount to \$266,382.71. It is with great regret that the Directors have to announce considerable losses, arising chiefly out of the winding up of the Working Account of 1886.

The Working Account of 1887 has consequently been very much reduced, showing a credit balance of \$24,285.54.

Out of this sum the Directors now propose to pay \$9,000 as 3 per cent. interest to shareholders for the last half year (making, with the 3 per cent. paid for the first six months, 6 per cent. for 1887) and to leave the remainder of the balance to be dealt with on the expiration of current risks.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. H. Foss and Mr. M. Grote have resigned their seats at the Board, and it is the sad duty of the Directors to announce the deaths of Mr. Lee Tuck Cheong, and Mr. J. A. dos Remedios, who have been valuable members of the Board for several years. To fill some of these vacancies the Directors have invited Mr. Lou Wei Chien, Mr. Si. C. Michelsen, and Mr. F. Dodwell, to join the Board, and their appointments require the confirmation of the shareholders. Mr. J. B. Eliaz and Mr. Fung Tan retire in rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, acting in Mr. T. Arnold's absence, and Mr. H. U. Jeffries has been elected by the Board, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. E. Hauschild, who for thirteen years had faithfully filled that office.

The Directors have much pleasure in recommending the re-election of Mr. Thos Arnold and Mr. H. U. Jeffries, as auditors.

ST. C. MICHAELSEN, Chairman.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1888.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1887.

Assets.	
Cash at Head Office	2,412.51
Current account with Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	2,412.51
London Agency	65.00
65 Bonds Chinese 7 per cent. Loan 1885 Series	£71.86 5 0
17 Bonds Chinese 6 per cent. Loan 1885	1,454 9 11
2 Bonds Japanese 7 per cent. Loan 1873	1,126 15 11
	£10,067 10 10
	@ 1/4 \$60,405.24
17 Bonds Chinese 8 per cent. Loan 1884, B...	8,500.00
	68,905.24

Securities in Hongkong.	
145 Bonds Chinese 8 per cent. Loan 1884, B...	\$72,536.38
13 Bonds Chinese 8 per cent. Loan 1884, C...	6,664.08
8 Bonds Chinese 8 per cent. Loan 1885	4,674.30
188 Bonds Chinese 7 per cent. Loan 1886, E...	68,694.64
Share in North China Insurance Company, Limited	277.78
	152,547.18

Fixed Deposits.	
Wah Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp., Hongkong	90,000.00
Mortgage—On Property in Hongkong	7,000.00
S. S. Sea Gull—Share of profits	2,386.18
Office Furniture—At Head Office	665.25
Stamps—On hand in London and Hongkong	591.86
Bills Receivable	5,647.68
Accounts Receivable.	
Office	\$ 12,097.83
Interest accrued to date	8,972.81
Due from Agencies, &c.	192,501.79
	214,472.43
	\$571,928.33

Liabilities.	
Capital	\$1,500,000.00
Paid up	300,000.00
Reserve Fund	28,711.50
Accounts Payable.	
Uncollected Interest War-rants	394.00
Sundry Amounts due	192,631.50
	193,025.50
Bills Payable	25,905.49
Balance of Working Account	24,285.54
	\$571,928.33

WORKING ACCOUNT.	
Shareholders' Interest	\$15,000.00
Interest to 31st Dec, 1885 \$15,000.00	
" " 30th June, 1887 9,000.00	
	\$24,000.00
Hongkong Salaries	11,816.00
London Office Expenses and Salaries	1,904.35
English Branch Office Expenses	900.00
Charges	5,971.37
Survey Fees	2,691.81
Commission	8,366.70
London Committee Fees	3,154.00
Directors and Auditors Fees	3,400.00
Expenses and Loss on Sale of S.S.	
Sea Gull	1,370.00
Exchange	1,013.70
Bad and doubtful debts written off	2,369.51
Losses Account 1876	111.27
" 1883	263.97
" 1884	1,884.24
" 1885	650.6
" 1886	184.95
	185,875.81
Losses Account 1887	103,690.18
Balance	24,285.54
	\$45,411.33

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1886.	
Balance	\$125,771.29
Premium Account.	
At Head Office & Agencies	\$689,561.29
Losses.	
Re-insurance and Return	382,679.58
Premiums	306,881.71
Interest Accountants	19 66.33
Interest Warrants issued under Section 98 of Articles of Association	196.00
	\$452,415.33

We have compared the above statements with the Vouchers and Securities at Head Office, and with the Returns received from the various Agencies, and hereby certify the same to be correct.

SAMUEL J. GOWER,

Secretary.

F. HENDERSON, Auditors.

H. U. JEFFRIES, Auditors.

